

EU EXIT

Where do all our candidates stand on exiting the EU?

"The upcoming General Election is hugely significant, coming at a time where the NI Assembly and Executive is not up and running, and with major decisions to be made that will affect you, your families and your communities. This leaflet sets out a number of key issues facing us due to the decision that has been taken to exit the EU. We have included some key questions we suggest you ask of candidates when they are canvassing for your vote, so that when you get out and vote on 8th June, you do so fully aware of the positions our local parties will take on this issue."

Patricia McKeown
Regional Secretary

Key issues

With an exit from the EU, NI may no longer be part of the EU Single Market or Customs Union, which could have a major impact on our economy, including job losses. When the UK leaves the EU, NI will not be required to keep workers rights which come from the EU in place and they could be changed. Some form of border on the island of Ireland may return, which could negatively impact on trade, study, work, family life and the peace process. EU migrant workers in NI will lose their right to reside here once the UK leaves the EU.

Key questions

- **What will you do to protect the economy and jobs from a 'hard' exit from the EU single market and customs union?**
- **What will you do to ensure workers rights are not eroded but are instead strengthened?**
- **What will you do to secure an open border between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland which allows the types of free movement that currently exists?**
- **Will you support a right for EU migrants residing in Northern Ireland to remain?**
- **What will you and your party do to protect the peace process from any impacts that exiting the EU may have?**



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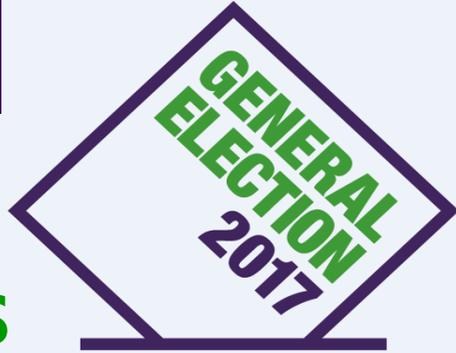


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PUBLIC FINANCES



Where do all our candidates stand on public finances?

"The upcoming General Election is hugely significant, coming at a time where the NI Assembly and Executive is not up and running, and with major decisions to be made that will affect you, your families and your communities. This leaflet sets out a number of key issues relating to public finances. We have included some key questions we suggest you ask of candidates when they are canvassing for your vote, so that when you get out and vote on 8th June, you do so fully aware of the positions our local parties will take on this issue."

Patricia McKeown
Regional Secretary

Key issues

Westminster allocates resources for the running of public services in NI but this amount has been shrinking and may well continue to do so. Normally the NI Executive decides how to spend this money through producing a Budget. Currently we have no Budget and unless a new Executive is formed soon, a Budget could be passed for NI at Westminster, with further cuts to education and health services. Westminster continues to control taxation and sets the minimum wage, which is currently below the rate of the Real Living Wage.

Key questions

- **What will you do to oppose further austerity cuts to public spending and secure the resources that public services in NI need?**
- **What will you and your party do to ensure that any budget for our public services properly resources them, rather than damaging them further?**
- **What will you do to change or oppose punitive welfare cuts, such as the recent discriminatory two-child limit for Child Tax Credits?**
- **Will you support the introduction of a Real Living Wage (currently £8.45 per hour) for all workers?**



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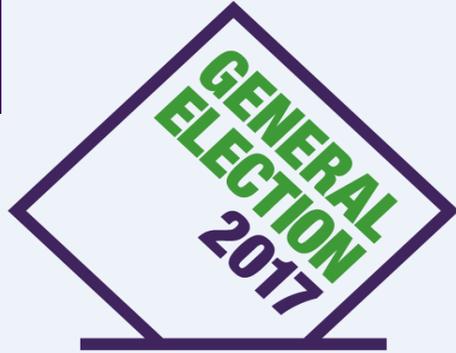


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[0800 171 2194](tel:08001712194)



**EQUALITY
&
HUMAN
RIGHTS**



Where do all our candidates stand on equality and human rights?

"The upcoming General Election is hugely significant, coming at a time where the NI Assembly and Executive is not up and running, and with major decisions to be made that will affect you, your families and your communities. This leaflet sets out a number of key issues relating to equality and human rights protections. We have included some key questions we suggest you ask of candidates when they are canvassing for your vote, so that when you get out and vote on 8th June, you do so fully aware of the positions our local parties will take on this issue."

**Patricia McKeown
Regional Secretary**

Key issues

Under the Good Friday Agreement, NI is required to have the protection of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) in our laws and a Bill of Rights for NI was to be developed. Nearly 20 years on, threats have been made to repeal the Human Rights Act, which gives the ECHR legal force in NI, and Westminster has not passed a Bill of Rights for NI. As part of exiting the EU, the UK Government has said that it does not intend to keep the strong protections provided by the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights. It will also not be required to keep equality standards which come from the EU in place and these could be weakened in future. Rights and equality issues, such as dealing with the legacy of the past, and an Irish Language Act, continue to be controversial amongst our local politicians rather than forming the basis for Government.

Key questions

- **Will you take actions that promote and protect equality and human rights?**
- **Will you and your party press the UK Government to implement a Bill of Rights for NI and retain the Human Rights Act?**
- **Will you ensure that equality and human rights are not weakened by an EU exit?**



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